



By the King.



Hereas, at the humble suit and request of sundry Our loving and well disposed Subjects, intending to deduce a Colony, and to make a Plantation in Virginia, Wee, for the enlarging of Our Government, increase of Navigation and Trade, and especially for the reducing of the savage and barbarous people of those parts to the Christian faith, did incorporate divers Noblemen, Gentlemen and others, adventurers in the sayd Plantation, and granted unto them sundry Priviledges and Liberties; amongst which, for their better helpe and assistance to raise some competent summes of money to prosecute the same Plantation to a happy end, Wee did grant them licence to set forth, erect, and publish Lotteries, to continue for one yeere after the opening of the same, and further, during Our pleasure; which liberty hath been by the same Company put in vse divers yeeres past. Now forasmuch as we are given to vnderstand, that although wee in granting the sayd Licence, had Our eye fix'd vpon a religious and princely end and designe, yet the sayd Lotteries, having now for a long time been put in vse, doe dayly decline to more and more inconuenience, to the hinderance of multitudes of Our Subjects;

Wee whole care continually waiteth vpon the generall welfare of Our people, have thought it expedient, for the generall good of Our Subjects, to suspend the further execution of the saide Lotteries, until vpon further deliberation and advisement, we shall be more fully informed of the inconueniences and evils thereby arising, and may ordaine due remedy for the same, without any conceit of withdrawing Our fauour in any degree from the said Company or plantation, and good worke by them intended.

And therefore we doe heereby expressly charge and command the sayd Company and their successors, and all their Officers, Ministers, and Servants, and all others, That from henceforth they desist and forbear, to vse or execute any manner of grant or Licence from Us, for the keeping and continuing of any Lotterie, or to keepe or continue any Lotterie, within this Our Realme of England or the Dominions thereof, until such time as wee shall declare Our further pleasure therein. And wee likewise require all Justices, Officers, and Ministers whatsoever, from henceforth, diligently and carefully to see this Our pleasure executed, and to punish the infringers thereof, as contemners of Our Royall command.

Given at Our Palace of Westminster the eighth day of March, in the eighteenth yeere of Our Reigne of Great Britaine, France and Ireland.

God saue the King.

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